



# Computer Project On Online Algorithm with Costly Prediction

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# Question 1

When do we ask the predictor in the ski-rental problem?

# Algorithm

- ◆ Buy at day  $b$  without asking, if  $c \geq \theta * b$  (Using deterministic algorithm)
- ◆ Ask predictor on day  $t * + 1$  and rent if

$$d * < t * + b \text{ and } c < \theta * b$$

- ◆ Ask the predictor at day  $t * + 1$  and buy immediately if

$$d * \geq t * + b \text{ and } c < \theta * b \text{ and}$$

$$\text{buy at } (1 - c + \text{math.sqrt}(((c+1)**2)+4*b*c))/2 \text{ day}$$

$$\text{Here } \theta \text{ is } 1 + (\text{math.sqrt}(((c+1)**2)+4*c*(b-1))+c-1)/(2*b)$$



# Deterministic Algorithm

- ◆ An algorithm for the Ski Rental Problem that purchases the skis on the day  $t = b$  is 2-competitive.
- ◆ So,

$$\text{ALGO}(l) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } l < b, \\ (b - 1) + b = 2b - 1 & \text{if } l \geq b \end{cases}$$

where  $l$  is the last day of ski season and  $b$  is the cost of ski and rent we assume unity.

## THE PYTHON CODE IS AS FOLLOWS:

```
import math
def predictor(b,c,r):
    b = int(b)
    c = int(c)
    r = int(r)
    if c == 0:
        print("WE WILL ASK THE PREDICTOR PREDICT THE SKI AT THE FIRST DAY")
    elif r >= b:
        print("WE WILL BUY THE SKI AT THE FIRST DAY")
    elif b < c:
        print("WE WILL BUY THE SKI AT",round(b/r)," th DAY")
    else:
        o = 1 + (math.sqrt(((c+1)**2)+4*c*(b-1))+c-1)/(2*b)
        t = (1 - c + math.sqrt(((c+1)**2)+4*b*c))/2
        if c >= o*b:
            print("WE WILL BUY THE SKI AT",round(b/r)," th DAY")
        else:
            print("WE WILL ASK THE PREDICTOR AT ",round(t),"th DAY")

b = input("ENTER THE COST OF THE SKI:")
c = input("ENTER THE COST OF THE PREDICTOR:")
r = input("ENTER THE COST OF THE RENT:")
predictor(b,c,r)
```

## Question 2

Given apriori information about the mean and variance of the true number of ski days, should we ask the predictor?

# Value of Prediction

- ◆ We consider this simple buy on day 0 or rent forever, which we show is already tight for natural parameters ( $\mu = \Theta(b)$  and  $\sigma = o(b)$ ).
- ◆ BoR := Buy on day 0, if  $\mu \geq b$   
Rent forever, if  $\mu < b$

We identify a threshold function  $f * (\mu, \sigma, b)$ , and show that this is actually the upper bound of BoR. Thus, the threshold function will enable us to decide if we should ask the predictor. That is if  $c$  is greater than this threshold value, we use BoR, otherwise we ask the predictor, i.e, use PRED. We call this algorithm VoP (Value of Prediction).



# Algorithm

- ◇ There exists a threshold function  $f * (\mu, \sigma, b)$ , such that the algorithm VoP satisfies,  $\text{VoP} \leq \text{OPT} + \min(f * (\mu, \sigma, b), c)$ .
- ◇ If  $\mu = b$  and  $\sigma \leq b$ , then we have that algorithm VoP satisfies,  $\text{VoP} \leq \text{OPT} + \min(\sigma/2, c)$
- ◇ We divide our problem into two subcase:
- ◇ Case 1 : When  $\mu \geq b$ ,

If  $b \geq \sigma$  and  $(b + \text{math.sqrt}(b*b - \sigma*\sigma)) \geq \mu$  :

The value of threshold function =  $(\text{math.sqrt}(\sigma*\sigma + (\mu - b)**2) - (\mu - b))/2$

Else the value of threshold function =  $b / (1 + ((\mu*\mu)/(\sigma*\sigma)))$

- ◇ Case 2 : When  $\mu < b$ ,

If  $b \geq \sigma$  and  $(b + \text{math.sqrt}(b*b - \sigma*\sigma)) \geq \mu$  :

The value of threshold function =  $(\text{math.sqrt}(\sigma*\sigma + (b - \mu)**2) - (b - \mu))/2$

Else the value of threshold function =  $\mu - (b / (1 + ((\sigma*\sigma)/(\mu*\mu))))$



## THE PYTHON CODE IS AS FOLLOWS:

```
import math
def asking_predictor(u,v,c,b):
    u = int(u)
    v = int(v)
    c = int(c)
    b = int(b)
    if u >= b:
        if b >= v and (b + math.sqrt(b*b - v*v)) >= u:
            f = (math.sqrt(v*v + (u-b)**2) - (u-b))/2
        else:
            f = b / (1 + ((u*u)/(v*v)))
    else:
        if b >= v and u >= (b + math.sqrt(b*b - v*v)):
            f = (math.sqrt(v*v + (b-u)**2) - (b - u))/2
        else:
            f = u - (b/(1 + ((v*v)/(u*u))))

    if c > f:
        print("Don't ask the predictor")
    else:
        print("Ask the predictor")

u = input("ENTER THE MEAN:")
v = input("ENTER THE VARIANCE:")
c = input("ENTER THE COST OF THE PREDICTOR:")
b = input("ENTER THE COST OF A SKI:")
asking_predictor(u,v,c,b)
```

# Question 3

In the bahncard problem, how often should we ask the predictor for the true number of trips taken in certain intervals?

# Algorithm

- ◆ Let  $B$  be the cost of the bahncard ,  $T$  is the validity of the card ,  $N$  number of travel request come in  $[0, N^*]$  interval ,  $p^*$  be the cost of per time asking predictor and  $mL$  be the cost per the ticket , and we get a discount of  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  if we have the bahncard. we get a discount of  $\beta \in [0, 1]$ .
- ◆ The goal is to minimize the total expenditure namely,

$$mB + (p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + \dots + p_N)$$

where  $m$  is the number of cards purchased and  $p_i$  is the cost at  $i$ th day. A solution to the problem can be represented as a possibly empty sequence  $\tau = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m)$ , of time points in  $0, \dots, N - 1$  at which we buy our cards



- ◊ We divide the problem into two cases.
- ◊ Case 1: If  $T \geq N^*$ , the bahncard problem is equivalent to ski-rental problem and use the deterministic algorithm.
- ◊ Case 2: If  $T < N^*$ ,
- ◊ Subcase 1 : If  $B + \beta c < c + p$ , always buy bahncard at the day of request and there is no necessary of predictor.
- ◊ Subcase 2 : If  $B + \beta c > c$  &  $2c > B + 2\beta c$ , if  $p + Tm < 2c - (B + 2\beta c)$ , go to the predictor for  $\text{round}(N^*/T)$  time otherwise use randomized algorithm to get  $(2 - \beta)$  approximation and inductively so on..

# Randomized Algorithm

.No deterministic online algorithm for  $BP(C; T)$  can be better than  $(2 - \beta)$ -competitive.

# THE PYTHON CODE IS AS FOLLOWS:

```
import math
def asking_predictor(b,t,n,m,p,l,c,h):
    b = int(b)
    t = int(t)
    n = int(n)
    m = int(m)
    p = int(p)
    l = int(l)
    c = int(c)
    h = float(h)
    if t >= m:
        if p == 0 and l == 0:
            print("We will ask the predictor at the first day and for whole length")
        elif n*c >= (b + n*h*c) :
            print("We will buy the bahncard at the first day and we have no need to ask the predictor")
        elif b < p:
            print("We will buy the bahncard at",round((b + n*h*c)/n*c),"th day and we have no need to ask the predictor")
        else:
            o = 1 + (math.sqrt(((p + l + 1)**2)+4*(p+l)*(b+n*h*c-1))+p+l-1)/(2*(b+n*h*c))
            t = (1 - p + l + math.sqrt(((p+l+1)**2)+4*(b+n*h*c)*(p + l)))/2
            if p + l >= o*(b+n*h*c):
                print("WE WILL BUY THE SKI AT",round((b+n*h*c)/(n*c))," th DAY")
            else:
                print("WE WILL ASK THE PREDICTOR AT ",round(t),"th DAY and for only one time")

    if t < m:
        if b + h*c < c + p:
            print("We will always buy the bahncard at the day of request and there is no necessary of the predictor")
        else:
            i = 1
            while i < n-1:
                if i*c < b + i*c*h and (i + 1)*c >= b + (i + 1)*c*h:
                    if (i + 1)*c - (b + (i + 1)*c*h) >= p + t*l :
                        print("Go to the predictor at the day of request and ask him to predict for the time interval of validity of the card and we have to go to the predictor for "
                            ,round(m/t), "time")
                    else:
                        print("No need to go predictor and use randomized algorithm to determine 2 - h approximation")
                i += 1

b = input("ENTER THE COST OF THE BAHNCARD:")
t = input("ENTER THE VALIDITY OF THR CARD:")
n = input("ENTER THE NUMBER OF TRAVEL REQUEST:")
m = input("ENTER THE LENGTH OF INTERVAL:")
p = input("ENTER THE COST OF PREDICTION PER TIME:")
l = input("ENTER THE COST OF PREDICTION PER INTERVAL:")
c = input("ENTER THE COST OF TICKETS:")
```



THANK YOU